

REMARKS

New claims 56-83 have been added. Entry of the amendment herein prior to reissue examination is respectfully requested, to permit a broadening reissue of the above-reference patent. Basis for the amendment can be found throughout the Specification. Examples of support are detailed below. No new matter is believed to be added by way of this amendment.

Support for claim 56 is found in U.S. Patent No. 5,961,672 (U.S. '672) at col. 2, lines 38-55; col. 3, lines 48-54; col. 4, lines 51-53; col. 5, lines 30-36; col. 9, lines 31-43; col. 11, line 8, to col. 13, line 9; and claims 16-18, 29-31, and 43-45.

Support for claim 57 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 2, lines 53-54; col. 10, lines 33-55; col. 7, line 64, to col. 8, line 2; col. 9, lines 11-20; col. 11, lines 22-27; col. 11, line 67, to col. 12, line 3; col. 12, lines 21-25 and 56-58; and claims 11, 24, and 38.

Support for claim 58 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 11, line 59, to col. 12, line 12; col. 12, lines 21-47; col. 12, line 50, to col. 13, line 9; and col. 9, lines 31-43.

Support for claim 59 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 2, lines 38-55; col. 5, lines 30-36; col. 6, lines 46-50; col. 10, lines 33-55; col. 10, line 61, to col. 11, line 5; col. 11, lines 8-45; col. 11, line 58, to col. 12, line 12; and col. 12, line 50, to col. 13, line 9.

Support for claim 60 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 2, lines 38-55; col. 3, lines 45-48; col. 4, lines 51-53; col. 5, lines 30-36; and col. 9, lines 21-30.

Support for claim 61 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 9, lines 26-29. Support for claim 62 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 9, lines 26-43. Support for claim 63 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 2, lines 53-54; and col. 10, lines 33-55.

Support for claim 64 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 9, lines 31-43. Support for claim 65 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 2, lines 38-55; col. 5, lines 30-36; col. 6, lines 46-50; col. 10, lines 33-55; col. 10, line 61, to col. 11, line 5; and col. 11, lines 8-45.

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Support for claim 66 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 2, lines 38-55; col. 3, lines 48-54; col. 4, lines 51-53; col. 5, lines 30-36; col. 9, lines 31-52; col. 9, line 66, to col. 10, line 5; col. 10, lines 11-21; col. 11, line 8, to col. 13, line 9; and claims 16-18, 29-31, and 43-45.

Support for claim 67 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 2, lines 38-55; col. 3, lines 45-48; col. 4, lines 51-53; col. 5, lines 30-36; and col. 9, lines 21-30 and lines 49-52. Support for claim 68 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 9, lines 26-29. Support for claim 69 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 9, lines 26-43.

Support for claims 70 and 77 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 2, lines 38-55; col. 3, lines 45-59; col. 4, lines 51-53; col. 5, lines 30-36; col. 9, lines 21-53. Support for claims 71 and 78 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 2, line 48; col. 5, lines 30-35; col. 6, lines 32-35; col. 10, lines 33-55; col. 10, line 61, to col. 11, line 5; col. 11, line 8, to col. 13, line 9.

Support for claims 72 and 79 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 3, lines 8-9; col. 6, lines 32-37; col. 10, line 33, to col. 11, line 45. Support for claims 73 and 80 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 3, lines 12-14; col. 6, lines 32-37; col. 10, line 33, to col. 11, line 5. Support for claims 74 and 81 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 2, lines 53-54; and col. 10, lines 33-55. Support for claims 75-76 and 82-83 is found in U.S. '672 at col. 9, lines 21-53.

The claims are directed to four groups. The first group includes claims 1-55, which correspond to the claims as previously issued, which are not amended in the amendment herein. Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested. The second group of claims includes claims 56-69; the third group includes claims 70-76; the fourth group includes claims 77-83.

The Examiner's attention is brought to U.S. Patent No. 6,017,651. A copy of this patent is submitted for the Examiner's attention for consideration of possible 102 (g) issues. At least new claims 56-59 of the instant application correspond to claims 1-4 respectively of U.S. Patent No. 6,017,651.

The Examiner's attention is further brought to U.S. Patent No. 6,025,094. A copy of this patent is submitted for the Examiner's attention for consideration of possible 102 (g) issues. At

least new claims 70, 71, 74, 75 and 76 of the present application correspond to claims 31, 32, 35, 36 and 37 respectively of U.S. Patent No. 6,025,094.

Applicants further bring to the Examiner's attention that a reissue application is cofiled today in U.S. Patent No. 5,962,171 (Atty. Docket No. 34474-2001230), which reissue application also includes claims corresponding to U.S. Patent No. 6,017,651 and U.S. Patent No. 6,025,094.

CONCLUSION


Examination of the claims as amended is respectfully requested.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 344742000530. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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